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An Account of the Spanish Bird Hermit, in Montserrat Hermitage.

MR. Thicknesse has lately presented to the public view, the most interesting particulars of "A Year's Journey through France and part of Spain." Many of his subscribers would have rejoiced to have accompanied him to the subterranean Roman city in Champagne—to Lyons, Nîmes, Avignon, Arles, Marseilles, &c. but particularly to the picturesque mountain of Montserrat in Catalonia. Mr. Thicknesse's accurate description of this extraordinary spot, we present for the entertainment of our readers.

With great difficulty, through a steep and rugged road, our traveller reached the convent, built at a vast expence, high on the ascent of the mountain. After he had reposed himself a night or two at it, where he was treated with great hospitality, he visited the 13 hermitages which are dispersed about the still higher parts of the mountain. His road up to the first was so dreadfully steep and dangerous, that nothing but a curiosity which overcame all fear of danger could have

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conquered. We are not able to lead our readers to all the solitary abodes, Mr. Thicknesse has pleasingly, and we believe, faithfully delineated both with his pen and pencil. He will excuse us, however, for introducing to them his agreeable and sentimental character of that extraordinary man, the Bird Hermit.

“The second hermitage, in the order they are usually visited, is that of St. Catherine, situated in a deep and solitary vale: it, however, commands a most extensive and pleasing prospect at noon day to the east and west. The buildings, garden, &c. are confined within small limits, being fixed in a most picturesque and secure recess under the foot of one of the high pines. Though this hermit’s habitation is the most retired and solitary abode of any, and far removed from the din of men, yet the courteous, affable, and sprightly inhabitant, seems not to feel the loss of human society, though no man, I think, can be a greater ornament to human nature. If he is not much accustomed to hear the voice of men, he is amply recompensed by the mellifluous notes of birds; for it is their sanctuary as well as his; for no part of the mountain is so well inhabited by the feathered race of beings as this delightful spot. Perhaps, indeed, they have sagacity enough to know, that there is no other so perfectly secure. Here the nightingale, the black-bird, the linnæa, and an infinite variety of little songsters, greater strangers to my eyes, than fearful of my hands, dwell in perfect security, and live in the most friendly intimacy with their holy protector, and obedient to his call; for, says the hermit,

“Haste here, ye feather’d race of various song,
Bring all your pleasing melody along!
O come, ye tender, faithful, plaintive doves,
Perch on my hands, and sing your absent loves!”

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When instantly the whole vocal band quit their sprays, and surround the person of their daily benefactor, some settling upon his head, others entangle their feet in his beard; and, in the true sense of the word, take his bread even out of his mouth; but it is freely given; their confidence is so great, (for their holy father is their bondsman) that the stranger too partakes of their familiarity and caresses. These hermits are not allowed to keep within their walls either dog, cat, bird, or any living thing, lest their attention should be withdrawn from heavenly to earthly affections. I am sorry to arraign this good man; he cannot be said to transgress the law, but he certainly evades it; for though his feathered band do not live within his walls, they are always attendant upon his court; nor can any prince or princess upon earth boast of heads so elegantly plumed, as may be seen at the court of St. Catherine; or of vassals, who pay their tributes with half the cheerfulness they are given and received by the humble monarch of this sequestered vale. If his meals are scanty, his dessert is served up with a song, and he is hushed to sleep by the nightingale; and when we consider, that he has but few days in the whole year which are inferior to some of our best in the months of May and June, you may easily conceive, that a man who breathes such pure air, who feeds on such light food, whose blood circulates freely from moderate exercise, and whose mind is never ruffled by worldly affairs; whose short sleeps are sweet and refreshing, and who lives confident of finding in death a more heavenly residence; lives a life to be envied, not pitied. Turn but your eyes one minute from this man's situation, to that of any monarch or minister on earth, and say, on which side does the balance turn? While some princes may be embruing their hands in the blood of their subjects, this man is offering up his prayers to God to preserve all mankind: while some ministers are sending forth

forth fleets and armies to wreak their own private vengeance on a brave and uncorrupted people, this solitary man is feeding, from his own scanty allowance, the birds of the air. Conceive him, in his last hour, upon his straw bed, and see with what composure and resignation he meets it! look in the face of a dying king, or a plundering, and blood-thirsty minister—what terrors the sight of their velvet beds, adorned with crimson plumage, must bring to their affrighted imagination. In that awful hour, it will remind them of the innocent blood they have spilt; nay, they will perhaps think, they were dyed with the blood of men, scalped and massacred, to support their vanity and ambition. In short, dear Sir, while kings and ministers are torn to pieces by a thirst after power and riches, and disturbed by a thousand anxious cares, this poor hermit can have but one, lest he should be removed (as the prior of the convent has a power to do) to some other cell, for that is sometimes done, and very properly.

The youngest and most hardy constitutions are generally put into the higher hermitages, or those to which the access is most difficult; for the air is so fine in the highest parts of the mountain, that they say it often renders the respiration painful. Nothing therefore can be more reasonable than, that as these good men grow older, and less able to bear the fatigues and inconveniencies the highest abodes unavoidably subject them to, they should be removed to more convenient dwellings, and that the younger and stouter men should succeed them.

As the hermits never eat meat, I could not help observing to him, how fortunate a circumstance it was for the safety of his little feathered friends; and that there were no boys to disturb their young, nor any sportsman

sportsman to kill the parent. God forbid, said he, that one of them should fall, but by his hands who gave it life! Give me your hand, said I, and bless me. I believe it did; but it shortened my visit; so I stept into the grotto and stole a pound of chocolate upon his stone table, and took myself away.

If there is a happy man upon this earth, I have seen that extraordinary man, and here he dwells! his features, his manners, all his looks and actions announce it; yet he had not even a single maravedi in his pocket. Money is as useless to him, as to one of his black birds.

Within a gun-shot of this remnant of Eden, are the remains of an ancient hermitage, called St. Pedro. While I was there, my hermit followed me; but I too coveted retirement. I had just bought a fine fowling-piece at Barcelona; and when he came, I was availing myself of the hallowed spot, to make my vow never to use it. In truth, dear Sir, there are some sorts of pleasures too powerful for the body to bear, as well as some sorts of pain; and here I was wrecked upon the wheel of felicity; and could only say, like the poor criminal who suffered at Dijon—O God! O God! at every coup.

I was sorry my host did not understand English, nor I Spanish enough, to give him the sense of the lines written in poor Shenstone's alcove—

“O you that bathe in courtlye blifs,
Or toyle in fortune's giddy spheare;
Do not too rashly deeme amisse
Of him that bides contented here.”

I forgot the other lines, but they conclude thus:

“For faults there beene in busye life,
From which these peaceful glennes are free.”

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The following is the substance of the paper which the late Dr. Dodd delivered at the place of execution to a clergyman, desiring that it might be published, as it could not be read there.

TO the words of dying men regard has always been paid. I am brought hither to suffer death for an act of fraud, of which I confess myself guilty with shame, such as my former state of life naturally produces, and I hope with such sorrow as he, to whom the heart is known, will not disregard. I repent that I have violated the laws by which peace and confidence are established among men; I repent that I have attempted to injure my fellow creatures; and I repent that I have brought disgrace upon my order, and discredit upon religion; but my offences against God are without name or number, and can admit only general confession and general repentance. Grant, Almighty God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, that my repentance, however late, however imperfect, may not be in vain.

The little good that now remains in my power, is to warn others against those temptations by which I have been seduced. I have always sinned against conviction; my principles have never been shaken; I have always considered the Christian Religion as a Revelation from God; and its divine author as the Saviour of the world; but the laws of God, though never disowned by me, have often been forgotten. I was led astray from religious strictness by the delusion of shew, and the delights of voluptuousness. I never knew or attended to the calls of frugality, or the needful minuteness of painful economy. Vanity and pleasure, into which I plunged, required expence disproportionate to my income; expence brought distress upon me, and distress, importunate distress, urged me to temporary fraud.

For this fraud I am to die ; and I die, declaring in the most solemn manner, that however I have deviated from my own precepts, I have taught others, to the best of my knowledge, and with all sincerity, the true way to eternal happiness. My life, for some few unhappy years past, has been dreadfully erroneous, but my ministry has always been sincere. I have constantly believed, and I now leave the world, solemnly avowing my conviction, that there is no other name under heaven by which we can be saved, but only the name of the Lord Jesus ; and I entreat all who are here to join with me in my last petition, that, for the sake of that Lord Jesus Christ, my sins may be forgiven, and my soul received into his everlasting kingdom.

WILLIAM DODD.

An Extract of Capt. BLIGH's Voyage from TOFOA, the north-westernmost of the Friendly Islands, through the Pacific Ocean, to TIMOR, a Dutch settlement in the East Indies.

[Concluded from page 344.]

WE found a few deserted huts, and a small plantain walk, from which we could only collect three small bunches of plantains. After passing this place, we came to a gully that led towards a mountain, near a volcano ; and, as I conceived that in the rainy season very great torrents of water must pass through it, we hoped to find sufficient for our use remaining in some holes of the rocks ; but, after all our search, the whole that we found was only nine gallons, in the course of the day. We advanced within two miles of the foot of the highest mountain in the island, on which is the volcano that is almost constantly burning. The country near it is all covered with lava, and has a most dreary appearance. As we saw but little to alleviate our distresses,

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we filled our cocoa-nut shells with the water we found, and returned exceedingly fatigued and faint. When I came to the precipice whence we were to descend into the cove, I was seized with such a dizziness in my head, that I thought it scarce possible to effect it: however they at last got me down in a weak condition. Every person being returned by noon, I gave about an ounce of pork and two plantains to each, with half a glass of wine. The people who remained by the boat I had directed to look for fish, or what they could pick up about the rocks; but nothing eatable could be found: so that, upon the whole, we considered ourselves on as miserable a spot of land as could well be imagined.

I could not say positively, from the former knowledge I had of this island, whether it was inhabited or not; but I knew it was considered inferior to the other islands, and I was not certain but that the Indians only resorted to it at particular times. I was very anxious to ascertain this point; for, in case there had only been a few people here, and those could have furnished us with but very moderate supplies, the remaining in this spot to have made preparations for our voyage, would have been preferable to the risk of going amongst multitudes, where perhaps we might lose every thing. A party, therefore, sufficiently strong, I determined should go another route, as soon as the sun became lower; and they cheerfully undertook it.

May 1. In the afternoon the party set out; but, after suffering much fatigue, they returned in the evening, without any kind of success. At the head of the cove, about 150 yards from the water-side, was a cave; across the stony beach was about 100 yards, and the only way from the country into the cave was that which I have already described. The situation secured us from the danger of being surprized, and I determined to remain on shore for the night, with a part of my people, that the others might have more room to rest in

in the boat, with the master; whom I directed to lay at a grapnel, and be watchful in case we should be attacked. I ordered one plantain for each person to be boiled; and having supped on this scanty allowance, with a quarter of a pint of grog, and fixed the watches for the night, those whose turn it was, laid down to sleep in the cave: before which we kept up a good fire, yet notwithstanding we were much troubled with flies and musquitoes.

At dawn of day the party set out again in a different route, to see what they could find; in the course of which they suffered greatly for want of water: they, however, met with two men, a woman, and a child; the men came with them to the cove, and brought two cocoa-nut shells of water. I immediately made friends with these people, and sent them away for bread-fruits, plantains, and water. Soon after other natives came to us; and by noon I had thirty of them about me, trading with the articles we were in want of: but I could only afford one ounce of pork, and a quarter of a bread-fruit, to each man for dinner, with half a pint of water; for I was fixed in not using any of the bread or water in the boat.

No particular chief was yet among the natives: they were notwithstanding, tractable, and behaved honestly, giving the provision they brought for a few buttons and beads. The party who had been out informed me of having discovered several neat plantations; so that it became no longer a doubt of there being settled inhabitants on the island; and for that reason I determined to get what I could, and sail the first moment the wind and weather would allow me to put to sea.

May 2. Stormy weather; wind E S E. It had hitherto been a weighty consideration with me, how I was to account to the natives for the loss of my ship: I knew they had too much sense to be amused with the story that the ship was to

join me, when she was not in sight from the hills. I was first doubtful whether I should tell the real fact, or say that the ship had overfet and sunk, and that only we were saved: the latter appeared to me to be the most proper and advantageous to us, and I accordingly instructed my people, that we might all agree in one story. As I expected, enquiries were made after the ship, and they seemed readily satisfied with our account; but there did not appear the least symptom of joy or sorrow in their faces, although I thought I discovered some marks of surprize. Some of the natives were coming and going the whole afternoon, and we got enough of bread-fruits, plantains, and cocoa-nuts for another day; but water they only brought us about five pints. A canoe also came in with four men, and brought a few cocoa-nuts and bread-fruit, which I bought as I had done the rest. Nails were much enquired after, but I would not suffer one to be shewn, as I wanted them for the use of the boat.

Towards evening I had the satisfaction to find our stock of provisions somewhat increased: but the natives did not appear to have much to spare. What they brought was in such small quantities, that I had no reason to hope we should be able to procure from them sufficient to stock us for our voyage. At sunset all the natives left us in quiet possession of the cove. I thought this a good sign, and made no doubt that they would come again the next day with a larger proportion of food and water, with which I hoped to sail without farther delay; for if, in attempting to get to Tongataboo, we should be blown away from the islands altogether, there would be a larger quantity of provisions to support us against such a misfortune.

At day-break I was happy to find every one's spirits a little revived, and that they no longer regarded me with those anxious looks, which had constantly been directed towards me since we lost sight of the ship: every countenance appeared

peared to have a degree of chearfulness, and they all seemed determined to do their best. As I doubted of water being brought by the natives, I sent a party among the gullies in the mountains, with empty shells, to see what they could get. In their absence the natives came about us, as I expected, but more numerous; also two canoes, came in from round the north side of the island. In one of them was an elderly chief, called Maccaackayow. Soon after some of our foraging party returned, and with them came a good-looking chief, named Eefow. To both these men I made a present of an old shirt and a knife, and I soon found they either had seen me, or had heard of my being at Annamooka. They knew I had been with Captain Cook, who they enquired after, and also Captain Clark. They were very inquisitive to know in what manner I had lost my ship. During this conversation a young man appeared, whom I remembered to have seen at Annamooka, called Nageete: he expressed much pleasure at seeing me. I now enquired after Poulaho and Feenow, who, they said, were at Tongataboo: and Eefow agreed to accompany me thither, if I would wait till the weather moderated. The readiness and affability of this man gave me much satisfaction.

This, however, was but of short duration, for the natives began to increase in number, and I observed some symptoms of a design against us; soon after they attempted to haul the boat on shore, when I threatened Eefow with a cutlass to induce him to make them desist; which they did, and every thing became quiet again. My people, who had been in the mountains, now returned with about three gallons of water. I kept buying up the little bread-fruit that was brought to us, and likewise some spears to arm my men with; having only four cutlasses, two of which were in the boat. As we had no means of improving our situation, I told our people I would wait until sun-set, by which time, perhaps something might happen in our favor: that if we attempted to go

at present, we must fight our way through, which we could do more advantageously at night ; and that in the mean time we would endeavour to get off to the boat what we had bought. The beach was now lined with the natives, and we heard nothing but the knocking of stones together, which they had in each hand. I knew very well that this was the sign of an attack. It being now noon, I served a cocoa-nut and a bread-fruit to each person for dinner, and gave some to the chiefs, with whom I continued to appear intimate and friendly. They frequently importuned me to sit down, but I as constantly refused ; for it occurred both to Mr. Nelson and myself, that they intended to seize hold of me, if I gave them such an opportunity. Keeping therefore, constantly on our guard, we were suffered to eat our uncomfortable meal in some quietness.

May 3. After dinner we began by little and little to get our things into the boat, which was a troublesome business, on account of the surf. I carefully watched the motions of the natives, who still increased in number, and found that, instead of their intention being to leave us, fires were made, and places fixed on for their stay during the night. Consultations were also held among them, and every thing assured me we should be attacked. I sent orders to the master, that when he saw us coming down, he should keep close to the shore, that we might the more readily embark. I had my journal on shore with me, writing the occurrences in the cave, and in sending it down to the boat it was nearly snatched away, but for the timely assistance of the gunner.

The sun was near setting when I gave the word, on which every person, who was on shore with me, boldly took up his proportion of things, and carried them to the boat. The chiefs asked me if I would not stay with them all night, I said, " No, I never sleep out of my boat ; but in the morning we will again trade with you, and I shall remain until
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the weather is moderate, that we may go as we have agreed, to see Poulaho at Tongataboo." Maccaackavow then got up, and said, "You will not sleep on shore? then Mattie," (which directly signifies we will kill you) and he left me. The onset was now preparing; every one, as I have described before, kept knocking stones together, and Eefow quitted me. We had now all but two or three things in the boat, when I took Nageete by the hand, and we walked down the beach, every one in a silent kind of horror.

When I came to the boat and was seeing the people embark, Nageete wanted me to stay to speak to Eefow; but I found he was encouraging them to the attack, and I determined, had it then begun, to have killed him for his treacherous behaviour. I ordered the carpenter not to quit me until the other people were in the boat. Nageete finding I would not stay, loosed himself from my hold and went off, and we all got into the boat except one man, who while I was getting on board quitted it, and ran up to the beach to cast the stern fast off, notwithstanding the master and others called to him to return, while they were hauling me out of the water.

I was no sooner in the boat than the attack began by about 200 men; the unfortunate poor man who had run up the beach was knocked down, and the stones flew like a shower of shot. Many Indians got hold of the stern rope, and was near hauling us ashore, and would certainly have done it if I had not had a knife in my pocket, with which I cut the rope. We then hauled off to the grapnel, every one being more or less hurt. At this time I saw five of the natives about the poor man they had killed, and two of them were beating him about the head with stones in their hands.

We had no time to reflect, before, to my surprize, they filled their canoes with stones, and twelve men came after us to renew the attack, which they did so effectually as nearly

ly to disable all of us. Our grapnel was foul, but Providence here assisted us; the fluke broke, and we got to our oars, and pulled to sea. They, however, could paddle round us, so that we were obliged to sustain the attack without being able to return it, except with such stones as lodged in the boat, and in this I found we were very inferior to them. We could not close, because our boat was lumbered and heavy, and that they knew very well; I therefore adopted the expedient of throwing overboard some clothes, which they lost time in picking up; and, as it was now almost dark, they gave over the attack, and returned towards the shore, leaving us to reflect on our unhappy situation.

“ Thus equipped they traversed the great Pacific Ocean, and arrived at Timor on Sunday June 14th, after encountering all the hardships and difficulties to which they were necessarily exposed, and what is most singular not a single person perished in the hazardous attempt. Capt. Bligh concludes this affecting narration with the following reflections which does equal honor to his heart and head.”

When I reflect how providentially our lives were saved at Tofoa, by the Indians delaying their attack, and that, with scarce any thing to support life, we crossed a sea of more than 1200 leagues, without shelter from the inclemency of the weather; when I reflect that in an open boat, with so much stormy weather, we escaped foundering, that not any of us were taken off by disease, that we had the good fortune to pass the unfriendly natives of other countries without accident, and at last happily to meet with the most friendly and best of people to relieve our distresses; I say, when I reflect on all these wonderful escapes, the remembrance of such great mercies enables me to bear, with resignation and cheerfulness, the failure of an expedition, the success of which I had so much at heart, and which was frustrated at a time when I was congratulating myself on the fairest prospect of being

being able to complete it in a manner that would fully have answered the intention of his majesty and the honourable promoters of so benevolent a plan.

With respect to the preservation of our health, during a course of 16 days of heavy and almost continual rain, I would recommend to every one in a similar situation the method we practised, which is to dip their cloaths in the salt-water, and wring them out, as often as they have become filled with rain; it was the only resource we had, and I believe was of the greatest service to us, for it felt more like a change of dry cloaths than could well be imagined. We had occasion to do this so often, that at length all our cloaths were wrung to pieces: for, except the few days we passed on the coast of New Holland, we were continually wet either with rain or sea.

Thus, through the assistance of divine Providence, we surmounted the difficulties and distresses of a most perilous voyage, and arrived safe in an hospitable port, where every necessary and comfort was administered to us with a most liberal hand.

On the 2d of January, 1790, we sailed for Europe, and on the 14th of March, I was landed at Portsmouth by an Isle of White boat.

AN ESSAY ON FRIENDSHIP.

ONE would almost be under the necessity of making an apology for attempting an essay on a theme that has been treated of by the learned at so many different periods of time, were it not that the word Friendship carries home, as it were, a pleasing reflection even to the coldest heart; considering too, that the writer, in a former paper, and under

a different signature, having barely mentioned the word, which being taken notice of by a particular friend, he recommended it as a proper subject for a few hours attention, and fit to furnish useful observations.

In that hour in which man was endowed with two natures, the one adapted for the service of our species and our Maker, the other common to us with the animal world, the wise Author of our being foresaw that our state would be insupportable, without some alleviation of the many distresses and nameless ills that render life one incessant struggle; having therefore no other motive in view, in creating us, but our good, he implanted in our natures a desire of associating with one another. It is to be observed, that a great part of the animal world love to herd together, excepting those of the ferocious kind: how much more delightful then must this social intercourse be to the rational part of the creation?—There is likewise an observation made by philosophers, that all bodies of the natural world, even the most distant, gravitate to and attract one another, by some secret impulse, by some uniform principle, which assists greatly in keeping them in their regular course, and without which they would fly off in unlimited circuits. Besides this general attraction which pervades the whole frame of nature, there are likewise some bodies which attract one another in a more forcible and visible manner.

Turning from the natural to the moral world, the observation holds equally good; for we find in the minds of men a desire for a kind of universal society, which shews itself by their uniting in communities, societies and families; among mankind, likewise, there are more particular engagements and ties, which endear those under such with more tender and lasting bonds;—this it is that forms Friendship, the sweetener of human life.

This is the antidote against adversity, the improver of prof-

perity, the distressed mind's relief; this adds happiness to the most happy, and makes nations, as well as individuals rejoice; this lets the wealthy man know how to enjoy his riches, and furnishes means to the wise man for communicating his wisdom and knowledge to others. Friendship has been always looked upon to consist in these three branches, or rather comprehends these three heads, viz. the ties of blood, love between the sexes, and that highest attainment of it that subsists between two of the same sex. Of these in order.

Natural affection is, no doubt, the first principle that actuates the human mind. Parents are the first and natural guardians of infancy, and in such a state children, of themselves being helpless, they apply for relief to those who are nearest them; in any distressful situation, therefore, the parents, being most concerned, are at most pains in caring for them, or in seeing them cared for by others. Advancing a little from this state, the youthful mind requires the delightful task of parental care, to teach the young idea how to shoot, and to expand the rising thought. Thus from infancy are we endeared to our parents and relations; by a thousand ties, which are rendered more durable and lasting, by reason that we require such a tract of time before we arrive at maturity. Children of the same family too are united together by mutual acts of kindness; the blood that runs through their veins, were they brought up in entire ignorance of one another, has such a sympathetic power that as soon as they meet, they are possessed of all the feelings of fraternal regard. This first branch of friendship, when properly cultivated, will certainly overcome that between the sexes: this has been excellently pointed out by Mr. Addison in his *Cato* (than whom none had more just ideas of human nature,) where he first makes the two brothers in love with one woman, and then shews how the virtuous brothers overcame the heated fantastical notions of happiness in the possession of the female fair.

Virtue, love, and esteem must then be the foundation of true friendship; conversation shews more and more the latent qualities of virtue, burnishes our mental magazine, and whets for use; from thence intimacy takes its rise, and intimacy brings on to an entire union of two souls, which are bent upon one another's improvement, welfare and happiness; and is, in my opinion, the profit, pleasure and advantage that two friends have in view, and which they reap as the highest reward of virtue.

HISTORY of a CLERGYMAN'S WIDOW. Written by herself.

I AM the daughter of a gentleman. I had a genteel education; and was married, without the consent of my parents, to a clergyman with a small income. As my father was displeased with our marriage, he would never make use of his influence to get my husband promoted in the church; we, therefore, waited till his death, to possess a fortune which he would not part with in his life-time; but when my father died, an end was put to our flattering hopes; for his estate was, unknown to his family, so much embarrassed, that when the lands were sold, and the mortgages paid off, there was scarcely left a sufficiency to defray the expences occasioned by his funeral, and to discharge some small debts which he had contracted.

My father died almost two years after our marriage; and as our expectations of assistance from him were vanished, we lessened our expences, and with the utmost frugality lived in a state a little above want. My husband, who was a curate, had an income of thirty pounds a-year, on which (with the assistance of the presents which we frequently received from the genteel people in the neighbourhood) we, during his life, made
a shift

a shift to live; and as we had only one child, and were situated in a cheap part of the country, we made a tolerable appearance. The endearing affection of a tender husband, rendered life agreeable, and we endeavored to support our low station in a becoming manner, by extending our views to a better world, and pleasing ourselves with the thoughts, that there all our troubles and misfortunes would have an end, and give place to a happiness the most exalted and refined. Our child was educated with the greatest care, and no pains were wanting to instill into her opening mind a deep sense of virtue and religion; and we often flattered ourselves with the pleasing hopes, that our instructions were not thrown away upon her.

But at last the time came when our happiness was to be dissolved. The tender union, that had ever subsisted between my husband and me, was broken. After having been married to me nineteen years, he died. I shall not attempt to describe my grief in consequence of this afflictive stroke from the hand of Providence, the severest, I thought, which could have been leveled at me, as I was not only deprived by it of a dear, exemplary man, who had always been the truest, the tenderest of friends, my able instructor, and the sincerest partner of all my cares, but also of the very means of subsistence. I sought for consolation, and did not seek for it in vain. I recollected the discourses of my pious protector, and while I frequently meditated on what I had heard from his lips, soon found that he, who had been the cause of my sorrow furnished me with the best motives for the alleviation of it. I therefore humbly resigned myself to the will of God, and by reflecting religiously, on the felicity I had lost, learnt to bear the misery to which I was reduced, without murmuring or repining.

My daughter and I, at first, endeavoured to support ourselves,

ourselves with our kneedles; but this being very precarious, and at best barely sufficient to procure the necessaries of life, my daughter chose to go to service. Not being willing, however, to be a servant to any of those who had before done her the honor to admit her as a visitor, a place was soon found for her at a market-town, at the distance of a few miles, where she was hired as a chambermaid to a rich old bachelor, who, with the appearance of a good deal of religion, seemed to have no other faults than an excessive fondness for the world. However, his avarice was not a passion which could give any alarming apprehensions with regard to my child: as I had no reason, therefore, to fear that she would want the common supports of life, I was under no uneasiness on her account—But oh! how greatly was I mistaken!—I had put her into the hands of a monster—a cruel a merciless monster!—As to myself, a lady of much merit, and unblemished reputation, was so kind as to take me (and I was very well contented) for her housekeeper.

We had been in this situation for some time, during which I seldom heard from my child. One day while I felt myself in high spirits, having just received a promise from the amiable lady with whom I lived, to fix her in her own family, and was delighting myself with the thoughts of having her continually under my eye, the following short letter was delivered into my hands.

“Dear, dear MAMMA,

Oh! what shall I say? How shall I acquaint you with my distress! Forgive, forgive the uneasiness which I have brought upon myself and you. I have been deluded by my master—I have lost my honor, my virtue, and my reputation. I have a child—and the wicked man by whom I had it, has thrown me into prison. When he found that I was with child, he turned me away, and gave me some money; but he would not give

give it me without a note, With this I was brought to-bed, and clothed the infant: it being gone I went to him for more; he then arrested me for the money, and suffered me and the poor child to be dragged to jail. O! dear Mimma! forgive and pray for me, and let me see you; but do not reproach me; I have repented; indeed I have; the guiltless infant is now dying; and I shall soon follow. Did you but know the grief I endure, and how very ill I am, you would pity me, and pray for me. Do but come and tell me that you forgive me, and that you will not hate me after I am dead, and I shall die in peace.

Your guilty, ruined,
and almost distracted daughter,

A. W.*

Did ever mother receive a more dreadful shock? I fainted several times; but being at last brought to myself, and a little recovered, having earnestly prayed for my poor fallen child, and with a flood of tears, begged that God would graciously enable me to bear this most dreadful of all my afflictions, I began to recover my spirits, and immediately I set out on my painful journey. But what words can express the situation of my mind? or how shall I describe the horror that seized me when I, with trembling knees, entered the prison? Yet what was this to my child? Had it not been for a fresh flow of tears which I stopped to indulge at the door of the dreadful room, and which gave me some relief, I should certainly have run distracted. I entered the apartment, a dark and dismal place?—but I will not attempt to paint the horrors that were presented to my view. I soon saw my daughter prostrate at my feet—very much disordered, and so wasted with sickness and sorrow, that I hardly knew her. “And can you, can you, (said she) be so good as to come and see me?—O what grief?—my poor father had he been alive, how would he have borne the shame I have brought upon his family?”—she then—
pausing

pausing and recollecting herself, added—"Had he been alive, I should not—no—I should not have been guilty,—I should not have been in a jail."—With what bitterness of language did she then reproach herself!

It was with the greatest difficulty that I raised my child from the floor—she had scarce strength enough to stand on her feet.—Leading her to her bed, I there saw the innocent proof of her guilt, which died some hours before, merely for want of nourishment, for my daughter's milk left her from the time she entered the prison. No tongue can tell—no words can express the anguish of my heart?—It was not a time for reproaches:—on the contrary, I gave her all the comfort in my power. When she had told me her story, as well as her weakness would give her leave. I had her removed to another part of the prison, put into a clean bed, and sent for a physician: he came, but could give me no hopes of her life;—I resolved not to leave her.—In four days she expired. I then would have gone to the execrable villain, whose lust and barbarous usage had robbed me of all the comforts of my life: but my own illness continually prevented the execution of my design. I was seized with a fever, and, while out of my senses, was carried home. As soon as I recovered the use of my reason, I was informed, that the cruel seducer, struck with the recollection of his criminal proceedings, and reproached by his conscience for the murder of two helpless sufferers, was become raving mad; that he was actually confined; and that his brother was suing for his estate.

Anecdote of a British Sailor, related by Mr. IVES.

IN 1756 admiral Watson having sailed with his Squadron and the king's troops from Fort St. David to the assistance of Calcutta, in the East-Indies stopped at Mayapore,

Mayapore, on the banks of the Ganges, where the enemy had a place of considerable strength, called Bouge-Fort, which it was necessary to procure before he proceeded farther in the expedition. The action was begun by a brisk cannonade from the squadron, which soon silenced the cannon of the fort; but the garrison not offering to surrender, and continuing to discharge fire-arrows and small arms, it was determined in a council of sea and land officers, that colonel Clive should endeavour to take it by assault. For this purpose, at five in the evening, the admiral landed an officer, two midshipmen, and about forty sailors from each ship, under the command of Capt. King, to assist the colonel in storming the fort, which he intended doing just before day light, under the cover of two twenty-four pounders close to the ditch. In the mean time the colonel had given directions that the whole army, (the necessary guard excepted) and the detachment from the ships, should rest on the ground in order to recover themselves as much as possible from the great fatigues they had undergone in the preceding day's service.

All now was quiet in the camp; and we on board the ships, which lay at their anchors but at a small distance from the shore, had entertained thoughts of making use of this interval to refresh ourselves also with an hour or two of sleep; but suddenly a loud and universal acclamation was heard from the shore, and soon after an account was brought to the admiral that the fort had been taken by storm. This was a joyful piece of news, and the more so as it was quite unexpected; but when the particular circumstance that ushered in this success was related, our exultation was greatly abated, because we found that the rules so indispensibly necessary in all military exploits had been entirely disregarded in the present instance, and therefore could not help looking upon the person who had the principal hand in this victory, rather as an object

object of chastisement than of applause, The case was this :

During the tranquil state of the camp, one Strahan, a common sailor belonging to the Kent, having been just served with a quantity of grog (arrack mixed with water,) had his spirits too much elated to think of taking any rest ; he therefore strayed by himself towards the fort, and imperceptibly got under the walls. Being advanced thus far without interruption, he took it into his head to scale at a breach that had been made by the cannon of the ships ; and having luckily got upon the bastion, he there discovered several Moors sitting upon the platform, at whom he flourished his cutlass and fired his pistols, and then, after giving three loud huzzas, cried out "The place is mine." The Moorish soldiers immediately attacked him, and he defended himself with incredible resolution, but in the rencounter had the misfortune to have the blade of his cutlass cut in two about a foot from the hilt ; but this mischance however did not happen, till he was nearly supported by two or three sailors, who had accidentally straggled to the same part of the fort on which the other had mounted. They hearing Strahan the triumphant sound, roused the whole army, who taking the alarm, presently fell on pell-mell, without discipline, following the example of the sailors. This attack, though made in such confusion, was followed with no other ill consequence but the death of the worthy Capt. Dougal Campbell, who was unfortunately killed by a musket-bullet from one of our own pieces in the general confusion. Capt. Coote commanded the fort for that night, and at day-light the fort saluted the admiral. It was never exactly known what number of Moors there were in the fort when our people first entered. We took in the fort eighteen cannon from twenty-four pounders downwards, and forty barrels of powder.

Strahan;

Strahan, the hero of this adventurous action, was soon brought before the admiral, who, notwithstanding the success that had attended it, thought it necessary to show himself displeased with a measure in which the want of all military discipline so notoriously appeared. He therefore angrily enquired into the desperate step which he had taken. "Mr. Strahan, what is that you have been doing?" the fellow after having made his bow, scratched his head, and with one hand twirling his hat upon the other, replied, "Why, to be sure Sir, it was I who took the fort.—but I hope there was no harm in it." The admiral with difficulty was prevented from smiling at the simplicity of Strahan's answer; and the whole company were exceedingly diverted with his awkward appearance, and his language and manner in recounting the several particulars of his mad exploit. Mr. Watson expatiated largely on the fatal consequences that might have attended his irregular conduct, and then with a severe rebuke dismissed him; not before he had given the fellow some distant hints, that at a proper opportunity he would be certainly punished for his temerity. Strahan amazed to find himself blamed where he expected praise, had no sooner gone from the cabin than he uttered these words.—"If I am flogged for this here action, I will never take another fort by myself as long as I live."

*ANECDOTE of CROTCH, THE REMARKABLE
MUSICAL GENIUS.*

A GENTLEMAN told me that having put his finger one day on an organ which was out of tune, in a room where Crotch was sitting, the boy then only three years old, turned away with looks of great uneasiness, and cried very vehemently.

VL. I.

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mently when his brother attempted to bring him back to the instrument. He added that his ear was so exquisite as to enable him when even an unskilful person pressed down nine or ten of the keys together, to name every note which composed the sound with great rapidity and accuracy. It would be injustice to neglected genius, were I to lose this opportunity of reminding the public of what they seem to be ignorant, that William Crotch is still living, and at Cambridge; and that this extraordinary boy, after maintaining a mother and brother for more than nine years out of a life of twelve, by the exhibition of talents which nature has, it is hoped, endowed him with for nobler purposes, is still left to rely on precarious bounty for his support. If we consider his origin, and his unsettled course of living, his powers must appear very wonderful. At seven years of age he became his own instructor in the mechanical parts of music, and so well has he succeeded, that now, in his thirteenth year, he has almost finished an oratorio, which is said to contain such marks of invention, and such sublime combinations of harmony, as promises one day to give us what we yet want, an original English style. Independent, indeed, of his favorite art, he possesses an active and vigorous mind, which, under proper cultivation may hereafter display a combination of talents, rarely, if ever, found in a musician. The newspapers have lately been boasting of a laudable propensity among the rich and noble of the present day, to musical patronage: will none of these step forward to rescue the name of Crotch from our already too copious catalogue of deserted genius?

Extracts from BARTRAM'S Travels.

THE nests of hillocks are of the form of an obtuse cone, four feet high, and five feet in diameter to their bases; they are constructed with mud, grass, and herbage. At first the

they lay a floor of this kind of tempered mortar on the ground, upon which they deposit a layer of eggs, and upon this a stratum of mortar seven or eight inches in thickness, and then another layer of eggs, and in this manner one stratum upon another nearly to the top. I believe they commonly lay from one to two hundred eggs in a nest: these are hatched, I suppose by the heat of the sun; and perhaps the vegetable substance mixed with the earth, being acted upon by the sun may cause a small degree of fermentation, and so increases the heat in those hillocks:

The ground for several acres about these nests shewed evident marks of a continual resort of alligators; the grass was every where beaten down, hardly a blade of straw was left standing; whereas, all about, at a distance, it was five or six feet high, and as thick as it could grow together. The female, as I imagine, carefully watches her own nest of eggs until they are all hatched; or, perhaps, while she is attending her own brood, she takes under her care and protection as many as she could get at one time; either from her own particular nest, or others: but certain it is, that the young are not left to shift for themselves; for I have had frequent opportunities of seeing the female alligator leading about the shore her train of young ones, just as a hen does her brood of chickens; and she is equally assiduous and courageous in defending the young, which are under her care, and providing for their subsistence: and when she is basking up the warm banks, with her brood around her, you may hear the young ones continually whining and barking, like young puppies. I believe but few of a brood live to the years of full growth and magnitude, as the old feed on the young as long as they can make prey of them.

The alligator, when full grown, is a very large and terrible creature, and of prodigious strength, activity, and swiftness in the water. I have seen them twenty feet in length, and some are supposed to be twenty-two or twenty-three feet in length.

length. Their bodies is as large as that of a horse; their shape exactly resembles that of a lizard, except their tail which is flat or cuneiform, being compressed on each side, and gradually diminishing from the abdomen to the extremity which with the whole body, is covered with horny plates or squammæ, impenetrable when on the body of the live animal, even to a rifle ball, except about their head and just behind their fore-legs or arms, where, it is said, they are only vulnerable. The head of a full grown one is about three feet, and their mouth opens nearly the same length, their eyes are small in proportion, and seem sunk deep in their head, by means of the prominency of the brows; the nostrils are large, inflated, and prominent on the top, so that the head in the water resembles, at a distance, a great chunk of wood floating about. Only the upper jaw moves, which they raise almost perpendicular, so as to form a right angle with the lower one. In the fore-part of the upper jaw, on each side, just under the nostrils, are two very large, thick, strong teeth or tusks, not very sharp, but rather the shape of a cone: these are as white as the finest polished ivory, and are not covered by any skin or lips, and always in sight, which gives the creature a frightful appearance; in the lower jaw are holes opposite to these teeth, to receive them: when they clap their jaws together it causes a surprizing noise, like that which is made by forcing a heavy plank with violence upon the ground, and may be heard at a great distance.

But what is yet more surprizing to a stranger, is the incredible loud and terrifying roar, which they are capable of making, especially in the spring season, their breeding time. It most resembles very heavy distant thunder, not only shaking the air and waters, but causing the earth to tremble; and hundreds and thousands are roaring at the same time, you can scarcely be persuaded, but that the whole globe is violently and dangerously agitated.

An old champion, who is perhaps absolute sovereign of a

little

little lake or lagoon, (when fifty less than himself are obliged to content themselves with swelling and roaring in little coves round about,) darts forth from the reedy coverts all at once, on the surface of the waters, in a right line; at first seemingly as rapid as lightning, but gradually more slowly until he arrives at the centre of the lake, when he stops. He now swells himself by drawing in wind and water through his mouth, which causes a loud sonorous rattling in the throat for near a minute, but it is immediately forced out again through his mouth and nostrils, with a loud noise, brandishing his tail in the air, and the vapour ascending from his nostrils like smoke. At other times, when swollen to an extent ready to burst, his head and tail lifted up, he spins or twirls round on the surface of the water. He acts his part like an Indian chief when rehearsing his feats of war; and then retiring, the exhibition is continued by others who dare to step forth, and strive to excel each other, to gain the attention of the favorite female.

Having gratified my curiosity at this general breeding place and nursery of crocodiles, I continued my voyage up the river without being greatly disturbed by them.

POETICAL EFFUSIONS.

THE NEGROES COMPLAINT.

FORCED from home and all its pleasures,
 Africa coast I left forlorn,
 To encrease a stranger's treasures,
 On the raging billows borne:
 Christian merchants bought and sold me,
 Paid my price in paltry gold;
 But tho' theirs they have enroll'd me,
 Minds are never to be sold.

Is there, as ye sometimes tell us,
 Is there one who reigns on high?
 Has he bid you buy and sell us?
 Speaking from his throne the sky?
 Ask him, if your knotted scourges,
 Chains and blood-extorting screws,
 Are the means which duty urges,
 Agents of his will to use?
 Hark!—He answer—Wild tornadoes
 Strewing yonder sea with wrecks,
 Wasting towns, plantations, meadows,
 Are the voice with which he speaks!—
 He foreseeing what vexations
 Afric's sons would undergo,
 Fix'd the tyrant's habitation
 Where his whirlwinds answers no.
 By our blood in Afric wasted,
 Ere our necks received the chain;
 By the miseries we tasted,
 Crossing in your barks the main;
 By our sufferings, since ye brought us
 To the man-degrading mart,
 All sustain'd with patience, taught us,
 Only with a broken heart.

For the American Moral & Sentimental Magazine.

ANSWER TO THE WISH THAT APPEARED IN
 OUR VIIIth NUMBER.

HAIL! happy vestal, whose desire,
 Is wrapt in flames of sacred fire,
 Whose heart and pen united shew,
 The vanity of all below;
 Whose heart and pen united tell,
 One Female writes politely well;
 And shews, from vulgar errors free,
 No wish for popularity;
 No panting appetite to find
 Yourself the idol of mankind;

No poor desire for Apish drefs
(That fig-leaf of our nakedness,
Which only covers as a veil,
To gloss those parts it should conceal ;)
No thirst for all the modern schemes,
Which sooths the mind with waking dreams,
What can't you find the least delight
To shine the comet of the night ?
To pass the tedious hours away
At Cards, th' Assembly or the play ?
Ah, no !—your well informed mind
Pities these follies of mankind,
You see, each minute must be brought,
With ev'ry deed, and word, and thought,
Before the JUDGE supremely great,
Enthron'd upon the Judgment seat,
Where worlds assembled shall behold
The ample volume all unroll'd,
When each partic'lar soul shall feel
A ray of Heav'n, or pang of Hell !
It's thus by faith divine you soar,
And with ELIJAH reach the shore,
From Eagle's eyes you see
An endless dread Eternity !
And thence behold what men call life,
Chequer'd with mis'ry pain and strife.

Again, by faith divine you see
Extended on the cursed tree,
The SUBSTITUTE of all mankind,
By nails, but more by love confi n'
To buy our peace, and satisfy
Justice's blood requiring eye,
You see the gushing current flows
In streams as various as our woes ;
You hear his sighs, and catch his breath
While suffering nature feels his death ;
With MARY, thro' the dreary gloom
You visit at his sacred tomb,
From thence you follow HIM to Heav'n !
And catch that sound “ thy sin's forgiven.”

Hail ! bless'd ELIZA, ah how few
Of all your sex can vie with you ?
No longer do I wond'ring gaze
Why you despise the painted blaze,
Of riches, grandeur, drefs, parade,

Which tantalize, and then upbraid,
 Why all the treasures of the east,
 And all that SOLOMON possess'd,
 Cannot enslave your spotless mind,
 So free from dross, so much refin'd;
 Because you've felt the stamp divine,
 And heard your JESUS say, "I'm thine!"
 Hence, ev'ry human with you breathe
 For any lesser thing beneath,
 As friends or a selected one,
 As JESUS had his fav'rite JOHN:
 Or for a just got competence,
 Without an anxious, dread suspense,
 Or, as your gracious Lord thinks fit
 Shews you can have or can submit.

But will ELIZA suffer me
 Likewise to wish, as well as she
 It is that I may love my GOD
 And praise him for his smile or rod,
 That I may all obedience be,
 In riches, pain or poverty:
 In ev'ry sphere may I fulfill
 His wise unnering gracious will,
 And always as a dutious son,
 Say "Father let thy will be done;"
 Let there the sweetest union be
 Between my suffering God, and me;
 And may I thro' this vale of tears,
 To riper age or hoary hairs,
 Experience faith in all its pow'r,
 Till death and sin shall be no more!

And, if for lesser things I may
 With due subordination pray,
 Let no superfluous opulence,
 E'er croud my mind with vain suspense,
 Let rigid poverty and care,
 Not damp the fervor of my pray'r!
 Oh! let me thro' this pilgrimage,
 To help my youth, to sooth my age,
 Have some selected candid friend,
 Whose love, not e'en with life shall end,
 And if that one I dare explain,
 O let Eliza, be her name!
 And let me be without disguise,
 The one she does characterize!